



Australian Government

Department of Health

Chief Medical Officer

Ms Apolline Kohen
Acting Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Kohen

I am writing in relation to the 2021-22 Budget Estimates, Community Affairs on Wednesday 2 June 2021.

I wish to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health.

In answering a question from Senator Hollie Hughes I said: That COVID-19 incursions from hotel quarantine resulted in six community transmission events.

The response was accurate based on the information available at that time. However, in light of subsequent information provided by the Department of Health, I feel it necessary to provide a clarification of the facts. Two transmission events from hotel quarantine, being Rydges in Melbourne and the Stamford Plaza in Melbourne began as separate events but became indistinguishable in the community. Thus, there was a total of 7 incursions in hotel quarantine, resulting in 6 events with community transmission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PKelly', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Professor Paul Kelly
Chief Medical Officer

3 June 2021